

NOV 16 1972

DATE: November 15, 1972

To : Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics

FROM : Charles Yanofsky
Department of Biological Sciences

SUBJECT:

Josh:

The only help I can give you is the recollection that in 1948-49, my first year in graduate school at Yale, the Avery paper and the Griffith experiment were well known and often discussed. I am certain that all of us working on the biochemical genetics of Neurospora in 1948-1951 considered Avery's work convincing but what was lacking was some independent verification of his conclusions. I do not know of any basis for Wyatt's statement. The scientists you and I mixed with were well aware of Avery's work and its possible significance.